The TATLER.

By *Isaac Bickerstaff* Esq;

From *Tuesday March* 7. to *Thursday March* 9. 1709.

Sheer-Lane, March 8.

I Was this Afternoon surprised with a Visit from my Sister *Jenny*, after an Absence of some Time. She had, methought, in her Manner and Air, something that was a little below that of the Women of the first Breeding and Quality; but at the same Time, above the Simplicity and Familiarity of her usual Deportment. As soon as she was seated, she began to talk to me of the odd Place I lived in, and begged of me to remove out of the Lane where I have been so long acquainted; for, said she, it does so spoil one's Horses that I must beg your Pardon if you see me much oftener, when I am to make so great a Journey with a single Pair, and make Visits, and get Home the same Night. I understood her pretty well, but would not; therefore desired her to pay off her Coach, for I had a great deal to talk to her. She very pertly told me, She came in her own Chariot. Why (said I) is your Husband in Town? And has he set up an Equipage? No (answered she); but I have received 500 *l.* by his Order; and his Letters, which came at the same Time, bad me want for nothing that was necessary. I was heartily concerned at her Folly, whose Affairs render her but just able to bear such an Expence. However, I considered, that according to the *British* Custom of treating Women, there is no other Method to be us'd in removing any of their Faults and Errors, but conducting their Minds from one Humour to another, with as much Ceremony as we lead their Persons from one Place to another. I therefore dissembled my Concern, and in Compliance with her, as a Lady that was to use her Feet no more, I begged of her, after a short Visit, to let me perswade her not to stay out till it was late, for fear of catching Cold as she went into her Coach in the Dampness of the Evening. The *Malapert* knew well enough I laughed at her, but was not ill pleas'd with the Certainty of her Power over her Husband, who, she knew, would support her in any Humour he was able, rather than pass through the Torment of an Expostulation to gainsay any Thing she had a Mind to. As soon as my fine Lady was gone, I writ the following Letter to my Brother:

Dear Brother,

I AM at present under very much Concern at the splendid Appearance I saw my Sister make in an Equipage which she has set up in your Absence. I beg of you not to indulge her in this Vanity, and desire you to consider, the World is so whimsical, that tho' it will value you for being happy, it will hate you for appearing so. The Possession of Wisdom and Virtue (the only solid Distinctions of Life) is allowed much more easily than that of Wealth and Quality. Besides which, I must entreat you to weigh with your self, What it is that People aim at in setting themselves out to Show in gay Equipages, and moderate Fortunes. You are not by this Means a better Man than your Neighbour is; but your Horses are better than his are. And will you suffer Care and Inquietude, to have it said as you pass by, These are very pretty punch Nags? Nay, when you have arrived at this, there are a Hundred worthless Fellows who are still Four Horses happier than you are. Remember, dear Brother, there is a certain Modesty in the Enjoyment of moderate Wealth, which to transgress, exposes Men to the utmost Derision; and as there is nothing but Meanness of Spirit can move a Man to value himself upon what can be purchased with Money; so he that shows an Ambition that Way, and cannot arrive at it, is more emphatically guilty of that Meanness. I give you only my first Thoughts on this Occasion, but shall, as I am a Censor, entertain you in my next with my Sentiments in general upon the Subject of Equipage; and show, that tho' there are no sumptuary Laws amongst us, Reason and good Sense are equally binding, and will ever prevail, in appointing Approbation or Dislike in all Matters of an indifferent Nature, when they are pursued with Earnestness. I am,

SIR, &c.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Letter from Osyris *of* Edinburgh *is received, and the Performance of his Promise earnestly desired.*

To all Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, that delight in Soft Lines.

These are to give Notice, That the proper Time of the Year for writing Pastorals now drawing near, there is a Stage-Coach settled from the One-Bell *in the* Strand *to* Dorchester, *which sets out twice a Week, and passes through* Basingstoke, Sutton, Stockbridge, Salisbury, Blandford, *and so to* Dorchester, *over the finest Downs in* England. *As all which Places, there are Accommodations of spreading Beeches, Beds of Flowers, Turf-Seats, and Purling Streams, for happy Swains; and Thunder-struck Oaks, and Left-handed Ravens, to foretel Misfortunes to those that please to be Wretched, with all other Necessaries for pensive Passion.*

And for the Conveniency of such whose Affairs will not permit them to leave this Town, in the same Place they may be furnished, during the Season, with Opening Buds, Flowring Thyme, Warbling Birds, Sporting Lambkins, and Fountain Water, right and good, and bottled on the Spot by one sent down on Purpose.

N. B. *The Nymphs and Swains are further given to understand, That in those happy Climes they are so far from being troubled with Wolves, that for Want of even Foxes, a considerable Pack of Hounds have been lately forced to eat Sheep.*

Where-

Whereas on the 6th Instant at Midnight, several Persons of light Humour, and loose Mirth, having taken upon them in the Shape of Men, but with the Voice of the Players belonging to Mr. Powell's *Company, to call up Surgeons at Midnight, and send Physicians to Persons in sound Sleep, and perfect Health; This is to certifie, That Mr.* Powell *had locked up the Legs of all his Company for fear of Mischief that Night, and that Mr.* Powell *will not pay for any Damages done by the said Persons. It is also further advised, That there were no Midwives wanted when those Persons called them up in the several Parts of* Westminster; *but that those Gentlewomen who were in the Company of the said Impostors, may take Care to call such useful Persons on the 6th of* December *next.*

The Censor having observed, That there are fine wrought Ladies Shoes and Slippers put out to View at a great Shoemaker's Shop towards St. James's *End of* Pall-Mall, *which create irregular Thoughts and Desires in the Youth of this Nation; The said Shop-Keeper is required to take in those Eye-sores, or show Cause the next Court Day why he continues to expose the same; and he is required to be prepared particularly to answer to the Slippers with green Lace and blue Heels.*

It is impossible for me to return the obliging Things Mr. *Joshua Barnes* has said to me upon the Account of our mutual Friend *Homer*. He and I have read him now Forty Years with some Understanding, and great Admiration. A Work to be produc'd by one who has enjoyed so great an Intimacy with an Author, is certainly to be valued more than any Comment made by Persons of Yesterday. Therefore, according to my Friend *Joshua*'s Request, I recommend his Work, and having us'd a little Magick in the Case, I give this Recommendation by way of *Amulet, or Charm against the Malignity of envious Backbiters, who speak Evil of Performances whereof themselves were never capable*; if I may use my Friend *Joshua*'s own Words. I shall at present say no more, but that we, *Homer*'s oldest Acquaintance now living, know best his Ways, and can inform the World, that they are often mistaken, when they think he is in Lethargick Fits, which we know he was never subject to; and shall make appear to be rank Scandal and Envy that of the *Latin* Poet.

—— *Aliquando bonus dormitat Homerus.*

*** Whereas Mr. Joshua Barnes, B. D. Her Majesty's Greek Professor in the University of Cambridge, hath some Time since published Proposals for printing a new and accurate Edition of all Homer's Works, &c. All Persons that are willing to reap the Benefit of Subscription, being ten Shillings down, and on Delivery of the two Volumes in Sheets twenty Shillings more, are desired to make their first Payment to the said Mr. Barnes, now lodging at the Printing House in Cambridge, before the end of this Instant March; after which Time no more single Subscriptions will be admitted.

Advertisements.

*** PROPOSALS for Printing the LUCUBRATIONS of Isaac Bickerstaff Esq; by Subscriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be seen, and Subscriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall. All Persons that design to subscribe to this Work, are desired to send their Subscriptions with all Expedition, the Book being put to Press, in order to have it published before Easter.

Men's Morning-Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Calicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Person that failed) to be disposed of at very low Rates; may be seen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-house, against the Horse at Charing-Cross. The Prices being set on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.

*** This Day is publish'd, A Discourse made by the Lord Bishop of Rochester to the Clergy of his Diocese, at his Visitation in the Year 1695. Publish'd at their Request. In the Savoy: Printed by John Nutt, and sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

*** There is just published, Copies and Extracts of some Letters, written to and from the Earl of Danby (now Duke of Leeds) in the Years 1676, 1677, and 1678. With particular Remarks on some of them. Publish'd by his Grace's Direction. Printed for J. Nicholson at the Queen's Arms in Little-Britain, and sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. In 8vo. Price 4 s. bound in Calf.

ON Wednesday the 15th Instant, in the Great Room in York-Buildings, will be performed a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, by the best Performers, for the Benefit of Mrs. A. Bradshaw. Tickets are to be had at Charles Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, and at Tom's Coffee-house in Covent-Garden, at 5 s. per Ticket. N. B. In being Lent, there will be no Play that Night. The said Mrs. Bradshaw dwells now over-against Cecil-Court-End in Castle-Street, the Back of Leicester-Fields.

*** Sir Cyrill Wich's Library continues to be sold every Evening at Exeter-Exchange in the Strand, beginning at 5 of the Clock exactly. Catalogues are sold at 6 d. each by E. Curll against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street, and R. Smith at his Warehouse, the Place of Sale. Beginning to Night in the middle of the 45th Page. N. B. Grotius's Works, in 4 Volumes, Cudworth's Intellectual System, Le Clerc upon the Pentateuch, 2 Vol. with several very scarce Books in Folio, will come on.

*** There is just published, CALLIPÆDIA; or, The Art of getting pretty Children, in 4 Books. Translated from the Original Latin of Claudius Quilletus, by several eminent Gentlemen. Pr. bound 1 s. 6 d. The History of the most flourishing Island of Cajamai in America, after the Method us'd by the learned Jasper Hans Van-Slonenbergh. Pr. 1 s. Mr. le Clerc's Remarks and Abridgment of the Earl of Clarendon's History. In Two Parts. Pr. 2 s. All printed for B. Linton at the Cross-Keys between the Two Temple-Gates in Fleet-street.

*** Tully's Discourse concerning Old Age: In a Dialogue between Scipio, Lælius, and Cato. Render'd into English by Bernard Wilson. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

ON Candlemas-Day last, Jona-Ben Jacob Zeus, (born in Saphia in Barbary) a learned Jew, was baptized at St. Andrew's, Holborn, by the Lord Bishop of Oxford, and had his Grace the Lord Archbishop of York, and the Lord Bishop of Chichester, for Godfathers, and the Countess of Exmouth for Godmother, and was Christen'd John: And there is now publish'd, An Address to the Jews, containing his Reasons for leaving the Jewish, and embracing the Christian Religion. Printed for A. Barker at St. Lawrence-lane in Cheapside.

*** Just publish'd the Third Edition, with Additions, A Brief Account of a Specifick Remedy for curing the King's Evil: With some Observations of general Use and Service to People afflicted with that Distemper. In a Letter to a Friend. By William Vickers, Clergyman. Printed for Samuel Manship at the Ship against the Royal Exchange, and Arthur Collins at the Black Boy against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street.

*** Just published, El Casamiento Enganoso: The Deceitful Marriage. A Novel. Together with a Satyrical Dialogue between Scipio and Berganza, two Dogs. Written by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, Author of Don Quixote. And done from the Spanish by Mr. Ozell. Never before English'd. Printed for D. Midwinter in St. Paul's Churchyard, and B. Lintott in Fleet-street: And sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Pr. 1 s.

*** Just publish'd, Plutarch's Lives of all the most illustrious Grecks and Romans, with their Comparisons, abridg'd. With a Chronological Table, and an exact Map of the ancient Empires of Greece and Rome. Price bound 5 s. Printed for T. Bullock at the Rose and Crown on Snow-hill near Holborn-bridge; and sold by him, and B. Bragge at the Raven in Pater-Noster-Row.

A Brick House, with Sash-Windows, pleasantly Situated, near the Queen's Arms in Mortlock in Surry, with a Garden, walled round, and well planted; also a Stable, and Brewhouse, or Washhouse, to be Let at 14 l. per Annum. Enquire at the House, the Queen's Arms, or at Owen's Coffee-house in Symonds-Inn in Chancery Lane.

WRiting, Arithmetick, Fractions, Vulgar and Decimal, Merchants Accounts, the Extraction of the Square and Cube Root, Measuring, and Gauging; also Practice by Decimals, much easier and shorter than the common Method, taught at Home and abroad, by P. Pickering, Writing-Master at the Hand and Pen in Pater-noster-Row, late Servant to Mr. Shelley, who is now Writing-Master to Christ-Church Hospital.

THese are to acquaint the Lovers of Art, That there is an extraordinary Collection of Italian Drawings and Prints of the most eminent Painters and Gravers to be sold by Hand, the lowest Price being set on the Back-side of each; so that all Gentlemen will at Sight be informed of the Value. Note, that if any Person has either fine Drawings, Prints, Pictures, or other Rarities, they may be disposed of in the same Manner, paying Poundage for such as are sold. There is constant Attendance from 10 of the Clock in the Morning to 5 in the Afternoon, at the House on the Right Hand going up to the House of Lords in the Old Palace-yard, Westminster.